

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PORT O 01089 080313Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 CPR-01 L-03 A-01 /021 W
-----052160 081815Z /43

R 071240Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2268

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 1089

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: APER, TD, PDIP
SUBJECT: TAX AND DUTY FREE SALES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOTT IS TIGHTENING ITS PROCEDURES IN PERMITTING DIPLOMATIC AND STAFF PERSONNEL TO SELL AUTO-MOBILES AND OTHER PROPERTY IMPORTED (OR BOUGHT LOCALLY) TAX AND DUTY FREE. HERETOFORE, SUCH PERMISSIONS WERE ROUTINELY GRANTED AT THE END OF TOUR, EVEN IF SUCH TOUR WAS LESS THAN TWO YEARS. IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE GOTT IS REQUIRING THAT SUCH ITEMS BE HERE AND IN THE POSSESSION OF THE OWNER FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS.

2. SINCE STRICT ADHERENCE TO A TWO-YEAR RULE WOULD WORK SOME HARDSHIPS ON CERTAIN OF OUR PEOPLE (PARTICULARLY FIRST-TOUR OFFICERS WHO ARE NOW BEING GIVEN 18-MONTH ASSIGNMENTS), WE ARE PLANNING TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH THE MEA URGING THAT A DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY BE PRESERVED TO ACCOMMODATE OUR PERSONNEL WHOSE DUTY TOUR ARE LESS THAN TWO YEARS. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE PITCH THAT PERMISSION FOR TAX AND DUTY FREE SALES BE PEGGED TO COMPLETION OF ASSIGNED TOUR, RATHER THAN ARBITRARY TWO YEARS. IN ORDER TO PREPARE OUR ARGUMENTS WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING FROM THE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE INFORMATION IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

A) WHAT ARE RULES REGARDING SALE OF DUTY AND TAX

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PORT O 01089 080313Z

FREE AUTOMOBILES AND POSSIBLY OTHER POSSESSIONS APPLICABLE TO GOTT PERSONNEL STATIONED IN U. S.? IF OUR RESTRICTIONS ARE ROUGHLY THE SAME AS GOTT PRACTICES UP TO NOW, WOULD MORE RESTRICTIVE RULES HERE BE RECIPROCATED IN WASHINGTON?

B) CAN DEPARTMENT GIVE US A RUNDOWN ON PREVAILING SITUATION, WORLDWIDE, ON RE-SALE PRIVILEGES GRANTED

U. S. PERSONNEL? WE ARE NOT REQUESTING GREAT DETAIL
ON THIS, BUT BELIEVE THAT GOTT MAY BE IMPRESSED IF
WE CAN ARGUE CONVINCINGLY THAT MOST COUNTRIES ARE WILLING
TO GRANT MORE LIBERAL PRIVILEGES TO U. S. PERSONNEL THAN
RULES NOW BEING PUT INTO EFFECT HERE.
FOX

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, TAX FREE, PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PORTO01089
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780152-0955
Format: TEL
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780480/aaaacqiw.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 25fc34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3040591
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TAX AND DUTY FREE SALES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
TAGS: APER, PDIP, TD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/25fc34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014